

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-04  
(Emergency Measures for COVID-19)**

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization officially declared a pandemic due to COVID-19 on March 11, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, many businesses have greatly reduced their hours and operations as directed by health officials and in an effort to protect the public health and slow the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, these business decisions have created a hardship on Arizonans and their families who have lost income due to these circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, many Arizonans rely on a state license to work and state sponsored programs, adding to this economic hardship; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of Arizona, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic issued a Declaration of Emergency on March 11, 2020, authorizing the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services to coordinate all matters pertaining to the public health emergency response of the State in accordance with Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") Title 36, Chapter 6, Article 9; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services, pursuant to the Declaration of Emergency and as authorized by A.R.S §§ 26-307(A) and 36-787(A), may make, amend, and rescind orders, rules, and regulations necessary for emergency functions and shall coordinate all matters pertaining to the public health emergency response of the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of Arizona, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic issued Executive Order 2020-17 (Continuity of Work) in which all government agencies of the State of Arizona were directed to identify ways to assist Arizonans in getting through these difficult times during this Public Health state of Emergency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Cara Christ, M.D., M.S. by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services, in order to address the State of Emergency, in order to ensure consistency with Executive Order 2020-17, and in order to assist Arizonans in getting through these difficult times hereby order as follows:

1. An Arizona Department of Health Services' Division ("Division"), after determining that a requirement to renew a license/certification or receive approval to participate in a Department Program is no longer reasonable due to the COVID-19 pandemic, shall:
  - a. Temporarily waive or defer requirements to renew a license/certification or approval to participate in Department Program that have an expiration date between June 1, 2020 and September 1, 2020, by six months from the expiration date, unless those requirements may be reasonably completed online;
  - b. Temporarily waive or defer requirements to complete continuing education by six months, unless those requirements can reasonably be completed on-line;

## Administrative Order 2020-04

- c. Temporarily waive or defer any requirements that prevent or limit the amount of online or alternative learning hours permitted to issue or renew a license/certification or receive approval to participate in a Department Program;
  - d. Make every attempt to implement electronic or remote format examinations for licensure/re-licensure or participation in a Department Program where feasible; and
  - e. Unless prohibited by federal law or regulation, if an examination cannot be provided via electronic or remote format, the Division shall issue a provisional license/certificate or approval to participate to an applicant who has met all other requirements of Arizona statute and administrative code, but who was unable to take the required examination due to the current closure of private testing centers and unavailability of an electronic or remote testing option, under the following conditions:
    - i. The applicant must meet all other requirements under Arizona statute and administrative code;
    - ii. A provisional license/certification or approval to participate is valid for six months from the date of issuance;
    - iii. A provisional license/certification or approval to participate will be suspended 20 days after the in-person testing centers reopen, or the examinations otherwise become available, including in an electronic or remote format, unless the applicant passes the required examination prior to license suspension; and
    - iv. The provisional license/certification or approval to participate is no longer provisional and becomes a regular license/certification or approval to participate pursuant to Arizona statute and administrative code upon successful passage of the required examinations.
2. Upon approval by the Division head, all temporary waivers and deferments made pursuant to this Order shall be posted on the Division's webpage.
3. If the Arizona Department of Health Services becomes aware of actions taken as a result of this Order or any temporary waivers or deferments made pursuant to this Order that jeopardize the health, safety and welfare of the public, the Arizona Department of Health Services will take additional action as necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.
4. Unless rescinded earlier by the Arizona Department of Health Services, this Order shall be in effect until the Declaration of Emergency issued by the Governor of Arizona on March 11, 2020, is terminated.

**Administrative Order 2020-04**

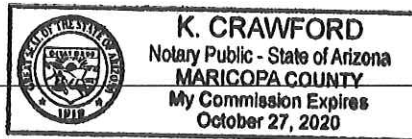
Having authority to do so under Arizona law, I have executed this Order on this day 5<sup>th</sup> of June, 2020.

Cara Christ M.D.

**Cara Christ, M.D., M.S., Director, Arizona Department of Health Services**

**ON** this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020,  
Cara Christ, M.D., M.S., Director of the Arizona Department of  
Health Services, signed and acknowledged this document  
in my presence.

K. Crawford



**Notary Public**